

Chicago Audio Society Newsletter, February, 2007

Meeting Notice-Sunday, February 18th, 2:00PM-5:00PM

Arlington Heights Historical Society
110 W. Fremont, Arlington Room
Arlington Heights, IL

For directions go to:

<http://www.chicagoaudio.org/directions.htm>

*****NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS-THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO RENEWED AT THE JANUARY MEETING...ANNUAL \$40 DUES ARE DUE!! PLEASE REMEMBER AND SEE REED REHORST WITH YOUR DUES IF YOU HAVEN'T RENEWED!! THANKS!!*****

FEBRUARY MEETING-NOMAD AUDIO with PAUL HILGEMAN

We are pleased to have Paul Hilgeman, founder of Nomad Audio (<http://www.nomad-audio.com/>), a new loudspeaker and amplifier company based right here in Arlington Heights. The speakers feature all bamboo construction, dipole radiation, and a coaxial tweeter and midrange. Paul will be demonstrating both the Ronin and Sentinel models. The Niagara amplifier is a Class D design with a 400 watts x 2 power output. The system on hand will consist of the following:

Speakers:

Ronin - The classic, most popular passive version in natural bamboo
Sentinel - The only model, in cherry and walnut

Electronics:

Ayre CX-7e CDP
Ayre K5-xe Preamp
Nomad Audio Niagara

Cabling:

Furutech Reference XLR interconnects
Furutech Reference Speaker Cables

Do bring your favorite CD's, break out from the post-Superbowl blues, and check out a new innovative local high-end manufacturer. See you all Sunday!

JANUARY MEETING RECAP-MARTIN LOGAN with David Penrod/THETA DIGITAL with Don Youngstrom

We kicked off 2007 (during the Bears bye week-sorry now it's bye-bye 'til next year) with Martin Logan (www.martinlogan.com) and Theta Digital (<http://www.thetadigital.com/>). David Penrod, General Sales Manager of Martin Logan presented their new top of the line Summit electrostat loudspeaker. He was assisted by Dennis Chern from Martin Logan who gave us an informative Powerpoint presentation giving us a firsthand view of the company, manufacturing, and design. Don Youngstrom from Theta Digital introduced their products. The system consisted of the following:

Martin Logan Summit ESL Loudspeakers

Theta Generation VIII Preamp/DAC

Theta Compli Universal Disk Player

Theta Dreadnaught II Amplifier

MIT cables

The Summit, Martin Logan's top of the line loudspeaker, consists of a curved electrostatic panel and an integral powered woofer/subwoofer in each five foot speaker. The bass consists of 2-10" drivers and a 250 watt x 2 bass amplifier built into each speaker. The speaker now has an efficiency of about 92 db efficiency and filled the room to excellent effect.

- The Generation VIII is a fully balanced differential DAC/Preamp that has evolved since the DS/Pre in 1986.
- The Compli is a universal disk player handling all current formats including CD, SACD, DVD, and DVD-Audio.
- The Dreadnaught II amplifier is a zero-feedback, fully balanced differential amplifier that can be configured from 2 to 10 channels.

We had an excellent turnout and most stayed around to near the end of the meeting to enjoy the music.

Our thanks to David Penrod, Dennis Chern, and Don Youngstrom for an informative and rewarding demonstration of their high-end products. And thanks to Frank Putnam for making this meeting come together.